

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-8, and 10, 11 and 13-14 are pending herein. By the Office Action, claims 2, 9 and 15-19 are withdrawn from consideration; the specification is objected to; claims 1, 4 and 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112; claims 8, 11 and 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103; and claims 3, 5-7 and 12 are objected to. By this Amendment, the specification is amended; claims 2, 9, 12 and 15-19 are canceled; and claims 8 and 10 are amended. No new matter is added.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 3, 5-7 and 12 are objected to for being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would otherwise be allowable. All of claims 1, 3-8, and 10-14 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

I. Lack of Unity of Invention

Claims 2, 9 and 15-19 are withdrawn from consideration. Although Applicants continue to disagree with the Requirement, non-elected claims 2, 9 and 15-19 are canceled herein.

II. Objection to the Specification

The Office Action objects to the specification because the unit "atmA" is allegedly unclear. Applicants respectfully disagree.

The unit "atmA" is well known in the art, and refers to the absolute pressure expressed in terms of atmospheres. The unit "atmA" is thus contrasted to the unit "atmG," which refers to gauge pressure expressed in terms of atmospheres. Both of these terms are known and used in the art, and thus would not be unclear or indefinite to those skilled in the art.

Accordingly, the specification is clear and no further amendments are required. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

III. Rejection Under §112

Claims 1, 4 and 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 is rejected because the "n" in the formula is allegedly indefinite. Applicants respectfully disagree. As stated in claim 1, the claim includes "an alcohol having a structure represented by formula $C_nH_{2n+1}OH$." In this context, the "n" refers to the carbon atoms, and is used merely to indicate a proportion between the number of carbon atoms and the number of hydrogen atoms in the molecule. The formula itself is a well-known and readily understood formula indicating that the stated alcohol is an alkanol, i.e., an alkane (having one plus two times the number of hydrogen atoms, as compared to carbon atoms), with a single appended hydroxyl group. The stated formula is well known in the art, and would not be considered indefinite by one of ordinary skill in the art. Accordingly, claim 1 is not indefinite.

Claims 4 and 11 are rejected because the unit "atmA" is allegedly unclear. Applicants disagree. As stated above, the unit "atmA" is well known in the art, and refers to the absolute pressure expressed in terms of atmospheres. The unit "atmA" is thus contrasted to the unit "atmG," which refers to gauge pressure expressed in terms of atmospheres. Both of these terms are known and used in the art, and thus would not be unclear or indefinite to those skilled in the art. Accordingly, claims 4 and 11 are not indefinite.

Claim 10 is rejected because "solven" is misspelled. Claim 10 is amended accordingly.

Accordingly, the claims satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

IV. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 8, 11, 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over JP 519. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Poncelet. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

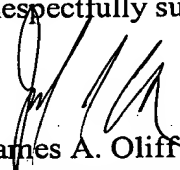
Although Applicants do not necessarily agree with the rejections, in the interest of advancing prosecution independent claim 8 is amended herein to incorporate the limitations of non-rejected claim 12. Accordingly, the rejections are overcome and should be withdrawn. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

V. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Joel S. Armstrong
Registration No. 36,430

JAO:JSA

Date: August 26, 2003

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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